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HERO AND LEANDER. By Martin Schütze. New York: Henry Holt & Co.

It is with pleasure we call attention to this fresh and gracious poetic tragedy. The dramatist has dared to strike out on a new line for himself. His work bears no likeness whatever to Grillparzer's famous drama on the same theme. While carrying us back into the very atmosphere of Hellas in her early innocence of nature-worship and surviving ascetic disciplines, he has succeeded in making his whole conception exhale an air of modernity. The struggle between two ideals of life, the ascetic and the æsthetic, is still on. Hero the niece of the priest, is induced to vow virginity, in spite of her passion for Leander, by superstitions unconsciously infiltrated into her being through years of training, and her despair of happiness under conditions which the plot unfolds. Her divided mind is the central poetic interest, and the fanning of the passion of Leander thereby, to a fiercer romantic heat. Particularly audacious, and we must admit effective, is the idyllic last act which presents us the situation after the death of Leander. We are haunted by the strange music of his verse, which allows itself many and strange licenses, that for the most part, turn out to be felicities. We have of late been refreshed by several interesting poetic plays, among which, perhaps most striking, were Mackay's "Fenris the Wolf," Kennedy's "Winter Feast," Torrence's "Abelard and Héloïse," but it seems to us that in their midst Prof. Schütze's Drama comports itself as more than a peer by the fine distinction of its poetic style, not to speak of its delightful simplicity of construction and delicate characterization, and its fragrant religious atmosphere.

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*Alarcon, El Sombrero en tres Picos.* Edited with notes and vocabulary. By Benjamin P. Bourland. New York: Henry Holt & Co. 1907.

*Corneille, Le Cid.* Edited, with notes and vocabulary. By James D. Bruner. New York: American Book Co. 1908.

Among the many excellent school and college modern language texts the above deserve a prominent place, through the careful and adequate work of the editors and the convenient form of the texts for use in the class room.